MARVEL

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LGY#684

APR

RATED T+

IRON MAN

DISASSEMBLED

WILLIAMSON
CARNERO
BAZALDUA
WOODARD

RATED T+

OKAY, THAT'S IT FOR CLASS TODAY, EVERYONE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR NEED HELP WITH THE ASSIGNMENT, DON'T HESITATE TO PING ME ON THE APP WE MADE.

I'M HERE FOR YOU.

YOU OKAY, *CODY?*

I CAN'T GET IT *RIGHT,* PROFESSOR WARE.

PLEASE CALL ME *ADAM.* CAN I HELP?

I WANT TO MAKE IT *PERFECT* AND I JUST... *CAN'T.*

PERFECT IS *BORING.*

TELL THAT TO BILL GATES, STEVE JOBS...WERE *THEY* BORING?

HERE'S THE THING, CODY...AS SOON AS YOU TRY TO *FOLLOW* SOMEONE ELSE...YOU'LL *ALWAYS* BE BEHIND.

I GUESS...

YOU'RE *TALENTED* AND *SMART,* AND YOU WORK *HARD* AT BOTH. DON'T BE SO HARD ON YOURSELF.

AND WE DON'T NEED MORE OF *THEM.* THEY'RE ALREADY HERE. THE WORLD NEEDS YOU TO BE *YOU.*

AAAHHHHH!!

KZTZTZTZTZZTTZ

WHY...?

HA HA HA HA HA!

THIS IS THE GUY THAT WON THE TONY STARK AWARD?

NO WONDER, I GUESS--HE'S JUST AS MUCH A JOKE AS STARK IS.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, FIXER?

IF YOU HURT THEM, THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO *CREATE ANYTHING.*

YOU'RE GETTING *SOFT*, MADAME MASQUE.

EVER SINCE YOUR OLD *BOY TOY* LANDED ON THE PREMISES, IT'S LIKE YOU'VE LOST YOUR NERVE.

THIS WAS *YOUR* IDEA, REMEMBER?

ACTUALLY, IT WAS *TONY'S...*

WHAT IS ALL *THIS?*

THE FRUITS OF OUR LABOR.

WEAPONS AND *TOOLS* SOME OF OUR GUESTS CREATED WHEN THEY TRIED TO ESCAPE. *SOME* WORK, *SOME* NOT SO MUCH. BUT I THINK I CAN COMBINE THEM INTO A NEW ARMOR...

I DIDN'T *HIRE* YOU SO YOU COULD *PILLAGE* THE TECHNOLOGY FOR YOURSELF.

WE NEED *ONE* OF THEM TO BE OUR TONY STARK. AND I BELIEVED YOU COULD HELP ME SEE WHICH ONE OF THEM HAD THE POTENTIAL TO--

THEN LET ME WORK.

IF YOU WANT ONE OF THESE GENIUSES TO BECOME THE *NEXT* TONY STARK... YOU NEED TO *PUSH* THEM TO THE *EXTREME*, MASQUE.

WE NEED THEM TO TRULY FACE *DEATH.*

AFTER A LIFE-THREATENING INJURY, CAUSED BY HIS OWN COMPANY'S WEAPONS, LEFT TONY STARK STRANDED IN A CAVE CLINGING TO LIFE, HE DID WHAT ONLY FEW COULD DO: HE DIDN'T JUST SURVIVE, HE THRIVED. DONNING A GOLDEN SUIT OF ARMOR, TONY STARK MADE IT HIS MISSION TO KEEP THIS WORLD--THIS UNIVERSE--SAFE.

TONY STARK IS MANY THINGS: GENIUS BILLIONAIRE PLAYBOY. FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE AVENGERS. HERO TO MILLIONS. BUT NO MATTER WHAT CHANGES IN HIS LIFE, TONY STARK WILL ALWAYS BE...

IRON MAN

//PREVIOUSLY//

MADAME MASQUE, with the full power of A.I.M. behind her, has brought TONY STARK into the battleground that will birth his new nightmare.

"NO ESCAPE"

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IRON MAN CREATED BY
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THE TRICK IS NOT TO *DEFEAT* THE ILLUSION...BUT TO *CONTROL* IT.

USING *MYSTERIO'S* TECH IS THE MISTAKE. I CAN OUTTHINK SOME FAILED HOLLYWOOD SPECIAL-EFFECTS GUY...

SHOWTIME.

...GOT IT...

ALMOST...

OKAY, ESCAPE ATTEMPT #4...HERE WE GO.

NICE TRY, DOME HEAD!

KRAK!

SPIDER-MAN!

DAMMIT-- YOU'RE NOT REAL, ARE YOU?

HAHAHAHAHA!

THWIP!

SIGH... TRY, TRY AGAIN...

KRKTTTZZZZ

"AND AGAIN.

"AND AGAIN.

RIP!

"AND AGAIN."

FFWWWOOOSSH

HM. THAT'S... DIFFERENT. A SIGNAL COMING IN... I THINK I CAN ACCESS IT...

HELLO?

PING PING

MISTER STARK? IT'S ADAM WARE

WARE? IS THAT REALLY YOU?

IT IS, SIR.

HOW DO I KNOW THIS IS NOT SOME TRICK BY MADAME MASQUE?

WHEN WE FIRST MET, YOU TOLD ME MY TIE LOOKED LIKE ONE YOUR DAD HAD WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG...

FAIR ENOUGH. ARE YOU SURE IT'S SAFE TO BE TALKING TO ME LIKE THIS? A.I.M. IS WATCHING US.

I WAS ABLE TO **HACK** A.I.M.'S SYSTEM...WE HAVE A FEW MINUTES BEFORE THEY NOTICE AGAIN...

ARE YOU **ALONE?**

DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE ***REST*** OF THE CAPTIVES ARE?

EVERYONE ELSE WAS BUILDING **WEAPONS**...BUT I WAS TRYING TO FIND WAYS TO CONTACT SOMEONE TO SAVE US.

HA. A.I.M. WANTED ***WEAPONS*** AND YOU BUILT A ***COMMUNICATION DEVICE?***

AS MUCH AS I HATE IT, OUR FUTURE IS PROBABLY A COMBINATION OF MAN AND MACHINE...BUT I SEE IT AS MORE ABOUT OUR HUMAN NEED FOR CONNECTION.

SO I DEVELOPED A WAY TO MATCH **ENERGY SIGNALS** FROM A COMMUNICATION DEVICE TO THE ELECTRICITY IN OUR MINDS...

I IMAGINE IT'S SIMILAR TO THE TECHNOLOGY YOU USE TO CONTROL YOUR ARMOR...

CAN YOU CONNECT US?

ONE SEC...

SOUNDS LIKE YOU WERE THE RIGHT PERSON TO WIN THE TONY STARK AWARD.

HOW'RE YOU HOLDING UP? ARE YOU *OKAY?*

NO. I'M *NOT.*

IS IT OKAY TO JUST *SAY THAT?* I'M NOT OKAY.

HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY.

I'VE NEVER BEEN IN SOMETHING LIKE *THIS.* I'M NOT *LIKE* YOU.

YOU'RE *MORE* LIKE ME THAN YOU THINK. YOU USE YOUR GENIUS TO *HELP* PEOPLE... IT TOOK A *HORRIBLE* PART OF MY LIFE TO GET ME THERE... BUT YOU WERE *ALREADY SELFLESS* FROM DAY ONE. DID YOUR PARENTS TEACH YOU THAT?

WELL...WHEN I WAS A KID, MY PARENTS WERE GONE...

I LOST MY PARENTS AT A YOUNG AGE TOO.

OH, THEY'RE NOT *DEAD*...THEY JUST... THEY WEREN'T...*PRESENT.*

BUT... I DIDN'T HAVE A LOT OF FAMILY AND WAS MOSTLY RAISED BY BOOKS AND THE CLASSROOM. I HAD *TEACHERS* WHO LOOKED OUT FOR ME.

IT'S WHAT *INSPIRED* ME TO BE A TEACHER. TO HELP KIDS LIKE ME. TO *CONNECT* STUDENTS WITH THE *RIGHT* PEOPLE. NOT JUST RESOURCES OR TECHNOLOGY. BUT TO *PEOPLE.*

BUT LOOK WHERE IT GOT ME.

DON'T THINK OF IT LIKE THAT. YOU'VE DONE ***GREAT THINGS.***

YOU HAVE A BRIGHT FUTURE AHEAD OF YOU...

HA, WELL. I'M NOT ***SMART ENOUGH*** TO GET OUT OF HERE.

THIS IS ALL ***MY*** FAULT, ADAM.

I HAD A WORRY A LONG TIME AGO, A ***SELFISH*** WORRY...AND NOW YOU'RE HAVING TO PAY FOR IT.

I'M... I'M ***SO SORRY.***

YOU'RE GOING TO SAVE US?

DAMN RIGHT I AM.

YOU GOT AN IDEA OF HOW TO GET OUT OF HERE?

THE TRUTH IS, ADAM, I'VE BEEN...I'VE BEEN EXPERIENCING SOME BLOCKS LATELY.

I'M NOT BUILDING ANYTHING ***NEW.*** I'VE JUST BEEN UPDATING.

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR ***INSPIRATION*** FOR A LONG TIME...

"...AND I THINK I *FOUND IT.*"

IRON MAN WORKSHOP: GAMMA BASE.

YOU HUNG OUT WITH HER *AFTERWARD?* ARE YOU SERIOUSLY TRYING TO MAKE FRIENDS WITH TONY'S NEW... *WHATEVER* SHE IS?

I KNEW *LUNA* BEFORE SHE MET TONY.

PEPPER...

WE CAN BE FRIENDS TOO.

IT'S JUST *WEIRD,* PEPPER. JUST WEIRD.

ANY LUCK LOCATING TONY, MELINDA?

HE TRACKED A.I.M. TO A MODIFIED HELICARRIER, BUT I LOST CONTACT AFTER THAT...

WE SHOULD CALL *THE AVENGERS.*

NO, TONY HAS THAT RULE, REMEMBER? 48 HOURS OF NO CONTACT--*THEN* WE--

CLIK

DON'T MOVE!

I JUST CAME FOR SOMETHING THAT BELONGS TO ME.

SOMETHING STARK *TOOK* THAT WASN'T *HIS* TO TAKE.

THOOSHHH!

NOPE.

BANG

HE'S GONE...

I'M GUESSING THAT'S THE NEW *CITIZEN V* TONY ASKED ME TO LOOK INTO...

HOW DID HE GET PAST SECURITY TO THE BUNKER?

I DON'T KNOW. I DIDN'T BUILD IT. *TONY DID.* ONLY A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE WOULD BE ABLE TO WALK THROUGH IT...

AND I DON'T THINK WE'RE GOING TO KNOW WHAT *V* STOLE...

"...UNTIL WE FIND STARK."

I HELPED CREATE THE DAMN *THUNDERBOLTS.* I'VE PLAYED BOTH SIDES AND CAME OUT ON TOP *EVERY* TIME.

I *DESPISE* TONY, BUT I ALSO RESPECT HIM. WE'RE BOTH BUILDERS. CREATORS. WE TAKE *NOTHING* AND MAKE SOMETHING *NEW.*

AND YET THEY ALL THINK *HE'S* THE SMARTEST...

I'LL SHOW STARK.

I'LL SHOW *HER.*

OH, TONY. WHAT ARE YOU DOING *NOW?* C'MON. BE THE MAN I KNOW YOU ARE *DEEP INSIDE.* REVEAL TO US WHAT YOU ARE CAPABLE OF.

DON'T MAKE ME REGRET THIS...

OH, YOU'RE *GOING TO* REGRET IT, *WHITNEY.*

TONY...?

YOU DON'T GET TO JUST **KIDNAP** PEOPLE IN THE NAME OF SCIENCE AND NOT DEAL WITH YOUR ACTIONS.

WE'VE HAD OUR ISSUES IN THE PAST, BUT I'M **DISAPPOINTED** YOU TOOK MY FEAR AND USED IT **AGAINST** ME LIKE THIS.

HOW ARE YOU...?

YOU ASKED ME TO BUILD **SOMETHING** TO ESCAPE...WHY ARE YOU **SURPRISED** TO GET RESULTS?

TONY, ***LISTEN.*** I'LL MAKE THE OFFER ***AGAIN. STAY HERE.*** WORK WITH ME. YOU AND I CAN CONTROL A.I.M. ***TOGETHER.*** CHANGE THE WORLD.

IF YOU DO THAT, I'LL LET SOME OF THE SURVIVORS GO.

WHITNEY...

...WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY **SOME SURVIVORS?**

I...

WHEN YOU CREATED THE ARMOR, YOU WERE PUSHED TO YOUR LIMIT...

WE HAD TO DO THE SAME.

OKAY, SO BEFORE I WAS KIND OF **JOKINGLY** ANGRY.

NOW I'M **ACTUALLY ANGRY.**

BYE

BYE

SECURITY TO STARK'S BUNKER ***NOW!***

CRASH-BOOM!

BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG

ZAP!

WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON OUT THERE?!

SHUT UP AND MOVE!

BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BLAST!
ZOOM!
ONE OF OUR STUDENTS, MELROSE, CREATED A ***PLASMA WEAPON*** THAT DEGRADES WHATEVER IT HITS. BREAKS IT DOWN INTO ITS BASIC PIECES OVER TIME.
GET TONY OUT OF THAT BEFORE THE PLASMA GETS PAST THE ARMOR AND COMES INTO CONTACT WITH HIS SKIN.
I WANT TO SPEAK TO TONY ***FACE-TO-FACE.***
FZZZZZZZ
ZOOM!
YES, MA'AM.
KLICK

UH, MA'AM?

RRRAA! FIND HIM!

C'MON...

THAT BROUGHT ME NINETY SECONDS. *MAYBE.*

BEEP

CLICK

ADAM!

IT WORKED...?

COMBINING YOUR MIND-TO-METAL TECHNOLOGY WITH MY ARMOR DID THE TRICK.

SIT DOWN. REST...

NO, LET ME HELP... PLEASE...

A.I.M. CREATED DIFFERENT SEQUENCES FOR ALL THE CELLS. THEY MADE SURE EACH EXPERIENCE WAS *UNIQUE* TO US...

...BUT THEY ALSO KEPT THE SECURITY UNIFORM... SO...

THUNK!

THUNK!

THUNK!

THUNK!

THUNK!

THIS IS IT? JUST YOU FIVE?

I THINK SO.

=SIGH= WE'LL SAVE INTRODUCTIONS FOR LATER. *FIRST*, WE NEED TO--

Y'KNOW, I DIDN'T NEED YOUR HELP, STARK. I WAS *THIS CLOSE* TO GETTING OUT OF HERE.

I BUILT A WEAPON THAT WOULD HAVE MADE THIS WHOLE JOINT GO *BOOM.*

WHAT *EXACTLY* DID YOU BUILD?

BOOM!

ARE YOU INSANE?!

GET THAT ENGINE STABILIZED OR WE'RE GOING DOWN!

WE NEED TO GET TO AN ESCAPE POD TO GET YOU THE HELL OUT OF HERE AND THEN I CAN GO BACK.

TO GET YOUR ARMOR?

NO, I DON'T *CARE* ABOUT THE ARMOR, CHUCK. I CAN ALWAYS BUILD MORE ARMOR.

I NEED TO KNOW IF MASQUE WAS TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT THE OTHER CAPTIVES FIRST...

THIS WAY! I SAW ON THE SCHEMATICS THERE WAS ANOTHER HUB *THIS WAY.* WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND THEM THERE.

FOLLOW ME.

FFWOOSSSH!

ADAM!

NO, NO, NO, NO, NO.

WELL, ISN'T THAT A DAMN SHAME? THE TEACHER HAD SUCH **POTENTIAL.**

MADAME MASQUE WAS GOING EASY ON YOU, STARK. MEET...

ADVANCED IRON MAN.

AFTER I USE MY NEW WEAPON TO KILL YOU, A.I.M. WILL PUT ME IN CHARGE.

FIXER?

NOW, LET'S SEE HOW SMART YOU *REALLY* ARE.

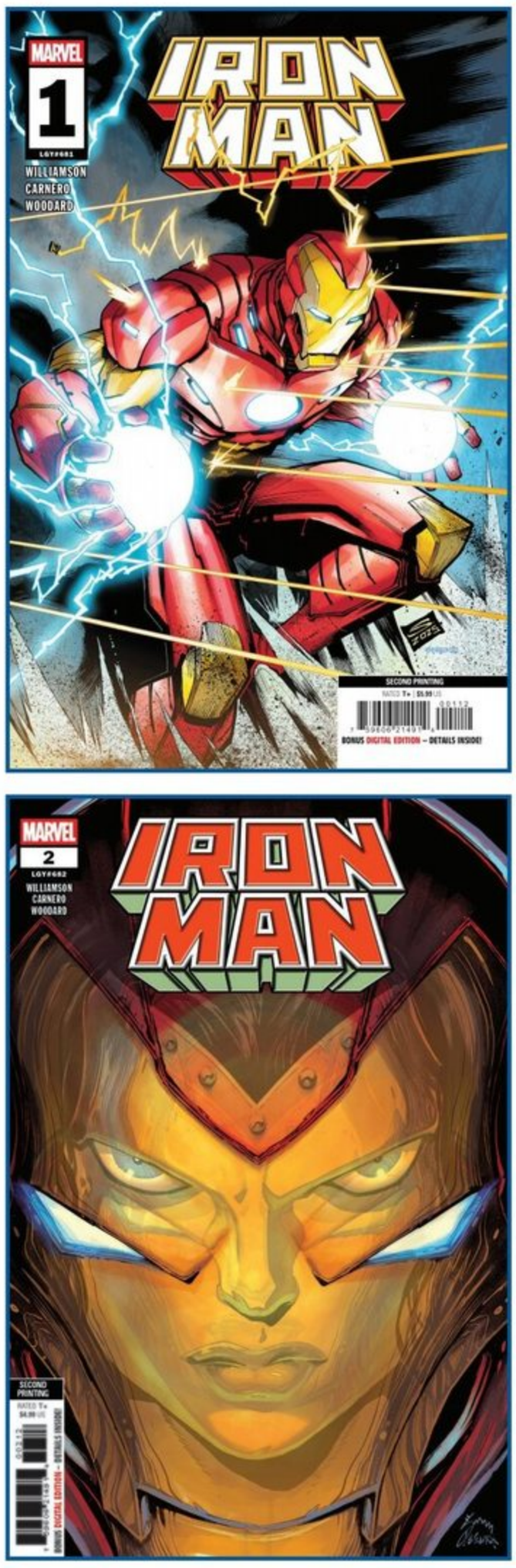
NEXT: TONY STARK VERSUS ADVANCED IRON MAN!

printed circuits

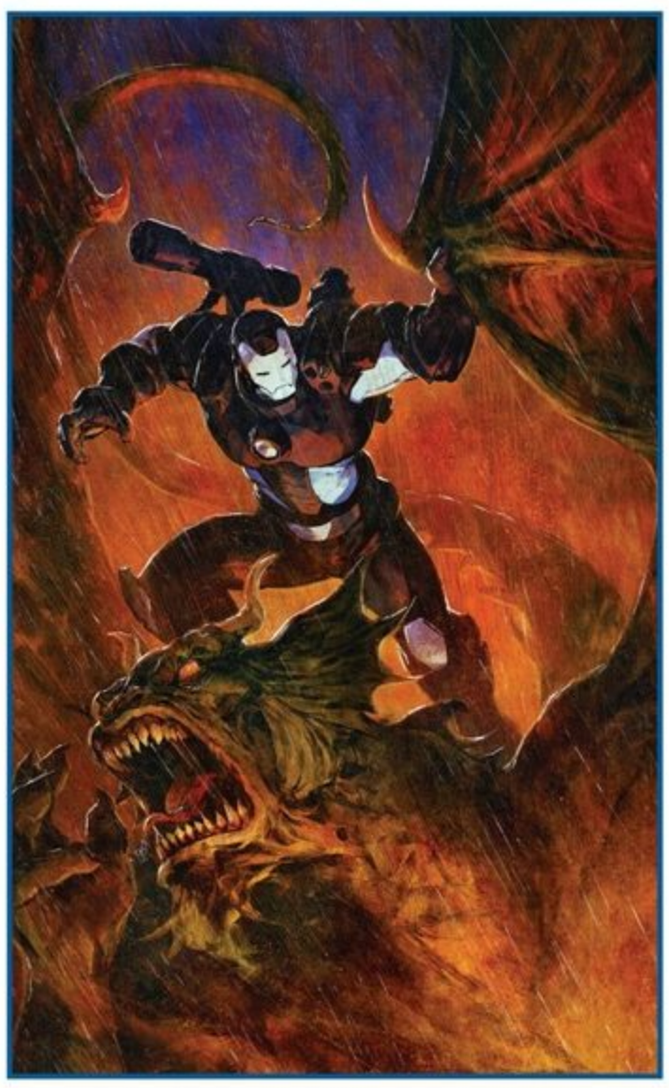
EDITOR// **DANNY KHAZEM**
SENIOR EDITOR// **WIL MOSS**
EDITOR IN CHIEF// **C.B. CEBULSKI**

Welcome back to another edition of **Printed Circuits**!

Things are moving too fast and too furious here in the world of IRON MAN as we've just wrapped issue #4! All of y'all's support and love for this book has been incredible--not only has issue #1 sold out and gone back to a second printing, but we just got word today, literally the day issue #2 has just released, that it has sold out and is going back to second printing as well! Keep an eye out for those on your local comic shop's shelves!



Now, as I said, things are crazy over here in the land of Iron, so this is going to be a short and sweet one…but what if I share a bit of an exclusive teaser for things to come? Just for you fine folks who have taken the time to read this…take a look at two OUTSTANDING variant covers coming soon to the series by blockbuster artist DAVE RAPOZA!



Some of you may be familiar with Dave's work on many covers for us over the years, but did you know he is also a prolific *Magic: The Gathering* card artist? Next time you're at your local comic and card shop, ask around and see if you can find some of his work out in the wild!

Speaking of *Magic*, did y'all know we've got a special set of covers coming out next month to commemorate our continued work with them? We're lucky to have one on next issue, IRON MAN #5, featuring art from the first *Spider-Man Magic: The Gathering* set by artist KEVIN GLINT!

Be on the look out next month for that and many more fun variant covers on the issue!

Also, be on the look out for the new *MARVEL SUPER HEROES Magic: The Gathering* trading card set coming this summer!

Okay, I need to get back to making more cool stuff for y'all to enjoy--see you next month, with more letters from you!

Stay Safe!

--DK
2.25.26

EMAIL US AT **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM** AND MARK YOUR MESSAGES **"OKAY TO PRINT"**
FOR A CHANCE TO SEE THEM ANSWERED IN FUTURE ISSUES!

next: IRON MAN #5